together in a compendium that was adopted unanimously at the conclusion of the last Round Table held at Jaipur. During the second Round Table held at Mysore on 28-29 August, 2004 the subject of Planning was discussed. In this meeting it was resolved that there shall be constituted in every State at the District level, a District Planning Committee (DPC) by the end of the financial year 2004-05 wherever such DPCs did not exist. It was also resolved that all DPCs should be constituted according to the procedure laid down in the Constitution in Article 243 ZD(2). A letter was sent by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj to all the Secretaries of Panchayati Raj in the States on 30th May, 2005 requesting them to constitute the DPCs in their respective States if the same have not been constituted. Their attention was also drawn to the meeting of Committee of Chief Secretaries and Secretaries of Panchayati Raj in the States/Union Territories held on 11th April, 2005 wherein the Ministry of Panchayati Raj desired that the States that have not constituted DPCs in accordance with Article 243 ZD of the Constitution should do so within 31st October, 2005.

(c) and (d) Under Article 280 (3)(bb) of the Constitution, the Central Finance Commission is to recommend the measures needed to augment the Consolidated Fund of a State to supplement the resources of the Panchayats in the State on the basis of the recommendation made by the Finance Commission of the State. The XII Finance Commission has recommended, and Government have accepted, that a grant of Rs. 20,000 crore be provided to Panchayats over the five-year period from 2005-06 to 2009-10.

MoU for computerization of panchayats

894. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with State Governments for the computerization of panchayats across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that 35 to 40 per cent of panchayats would be computerized in the first year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Under the National e-Governance Plan, a Mission Mode approach for computerization of Gram Panchayats is being formulated. This will also contain a time bound action plan for computerization of Panchayats to be put in place.

Devolution of powers to Panchayati Raj Institutions

895. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some fresh initiatives have been taken to vest the Panchayati Raj institutions with more powers recently and, accordingly, a plan has been drawn-up to implement some 300 Centrally sponsored schemes through these institutions;

(b) if so, the details of the plan drawn up and its present status;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this Ministry have sent a list of 150 recommendations on the devolution of powers to the Panchayati Raj institutions, to all the States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and views expressed, if any, by the States?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) A Task Force of officials in charge of Panchayati Raj in the States was constituted with Secretary (Panchayati Raj) Government of Karnataka as Convenor in pursuance of a decision taken in the Fifth Round Table Conference of State Ministers of Panchayati Raj held at Srinagar on 28-29 October, 2004. The objective of the Task Force was to examine the Centrally Sponsored Schemes currently being implemented in the